

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 6328 - VOL. XXXIX

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1858.

[PRICE FOURPENCE]

BIRTHS.

On the 14th instant, at her residence, Bourke-street, Barry Hill, Mrs. Joseph Cox, of a son.

On the 15th instant, at her residence, near Sydney (late from Glasgow), Mrs. Willis Atige, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 15th instant, by special license, at St. James' Church, Sydney, by the Rev. Robert Allwood, B.A., Mr. W. P. Chapman, of Fyansford, and Miss Anne, only daughter of John Benson, Esq., Castlemaine, Victoria.

DEATHS.

On the 15th June, Mary, widow of the late Rev. Joseph Brigstocke, died at her residence, 10, Pitt-street, Sydney (late from the Rev. William Chapman De Crespigny, Vicar, of Champion Lodge, Castlemaine).

On the 15th instant, at the residence of Mr. William Dalmat, of St. Mark's Parochial School, William Everett Dalmat, aged 4 months.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.—A Royal Mail Steamer will be despatched for

CYDONIA and STURE, carrying by his Majesty's Mail,

calling at intermediate ports on MONDAY, 18th of OCTOBER, at noon precisely.

For freight or passage apply to ROBERT THOMAS, agent, 18, George-street, Sydney, or to SOUTHAMPTON, 26th of OCTOBER, at noon precisely.

Passenger tickets half fare; sailors and marines half fare.

Passengers may have their tickets endorsed to remain

month at any intermediate port.

Passenger tickets through Sydney is as follows:—Brisbane direct, £1 10s.; Sydney in the Desert, a distance of 10 miles, in carriages, and from thence the whole way to Alexandria by railway.

For further particulars see guide book, which may be obtained on application at the Company's office.

CHAMPION WESTON, Superintendent.

BALMAY IRON STEAMER PRINCE OF WALES, bound for Port Jackson, will be despatched for Goulburn in Farms. Tickets may be had at the low price of 1s. 6d. per dozen.

Single passengers 2d. each.

Children 1d. ditto.

GEORGE BONNY, 1, lessons.

HORSE SCHOOL.

STEAM TO MANLY BEACH.—Steam Packet plying to

this favorite resort every TUESDAY, THURSDAY,

and SATURDAY, and on SUNDAY, at the following hours:—

From Sydney, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

From Manly, at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Calling at Woolstonecraft.

PARRAMATTA STEAMERS.—On Week Days.—

From Parramatta.

From Sydney.

8 a.m. 11 a.m. 1 p.m. 4 p.m.

On Sunday.

9 a.m. 11 a.m. 1 p.m. 4 p.m.

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The character of the country traversed, from the outlet of the Dawson River to the head of the Wimmera River, was generally that of a great forest, with great areas of dense brigalow scrub. A great portion is suitable for pastoral purposes, but not well watered; and the soil being sandy, the grass, will soon be destroyed if too heavily stocked.

As we advanced into the interior, it becomes more barren, and the extent of the larger watercourses, consisting of timber, and the character of the vegetation, indicated extensive drought.

North of latitude 30° dense scrub of acacias prevailed on the level country beyond the influence of the inundations, but to the southward, sandy and stony deserts, with low shrubby vegetation, were the characteristic features.

West of longitude 147°, nearly to the boundary of South Australia, the character of the country is desolate, for though in favorable seasons there might in some localities be abundance of feed for stock, the uncertainty of rain and frequent recurrence of drought renders it untenable, the grasses and herbage being principally annuals, which, not only die but are swept away by the hot summer winds, leaving the surface of the soil completely bare.

On Cooper's Creek, near the boundary, there is a small tract of second-rate country, which, being abundantly supplied with water, may easily be occupied. The best part is, however, within the Province of South Australia.

Between Cooper's Creek and Lake Torrens about 120 miles of sandy country intervenes. This tract is destitute of surface water, but it is probable that it could be obtained by sinking wells of moderate depth. I think it might be occupied to advantage during the winter months, the present local settlers would, no doubt, be improving their runs, and paying more attention to the stock, he able to benefit the country and compensate themselves for the amount of the tax.

The geological character of the country is remarkably uniform. Carboniferous sandstones and shales, containing occasional beds of coal, with superimposed hills and ridges of basalt, extend from Darling Downs to the southward, the latter being covered by horizontal sandstones with beds of chert and water-worn quartz pebbles. This latter formation extends as far as Mount Hopeless, where the slate ranges of South Australia rise abruptly from the plain.

The sandy deserts and mud plains are only superficial deposits, as the sandstones are often exposed where the upper formation is intersected by gullies.

The character of the country is, in general, of drift sand appears to be the result of the prevailing winds, and not the action of water, it being sufficient to visit them on a windy day to be convinced that it is unnecessary to seek for a more remote and obscure cause than that which is in present operation.

It is, perhaps, with reference to the physical geography of Australia that the results of the expedition are most important, as, by connecting successively the various parts of the continent, Captain Sturt, Mr. Eyre, the waters of the tropical interior of the eastern portion of the continent are proved to flow towards Spencer's Gulf, if not actually into it, the barometrical observations showing that Lake Torrens, the lowest part of the interior, is decidedly above the sea-level.

Although only about one-third of the waters of Cooper's Creek flow into Lake Torrens, by the number of streams which enter it, it is evident that the remaining channels, after spreading their waters on the vast plains which occupy the country between them and Sturt's Stony Desert, finally drain to the south, augmented probably by the waters of "Eyre's Creek," the "Stony Desert," and perhaps some other water-courses of a similar character coming from the westward.

This peculiar structure of the interior renders it improbable that any considerable inland lakes should exist in connection with the known system of waters; so Lake Torrens is decidedly only an expanded continuation of Cooper's Creek, and therefore the culminating point of this vast system of drainage, if there was sufficient average fall of rain in the interior to balance the effects of evaporation from the surface of the land, a sheet of water, the "Torrens Basin," instead of being occupied by salt marshes, in which the existence of anything beyond shallow lagoons of salt water is yet problematical, would be maintained as a permanent lake.

If, therefore, the waters flowing from so large a tract of country are insufficient to meet the evaporation from the surface of Lake Torrens, there is even less probability of the waters of the western interior forming a part of the basin of the ocean, unless there be some anomalous feature, as a depression of the surface in which it could be collected, especially as our knowledge of its limits indicate a much drier climate and less favourable conformation of surface than in the eastern division of the continent.

The undulations of the surface of the country are nearly as great as the meridian, gradually decreasing in height from the divide, ranging between the extreme of one thousand feet, in the case of the water of the river, being confined to valleys, they occupy plains formed by a slight flattening of the curvature of the sphere. Thus the side of the plain through which the river ran before it turned west to Cooper's Creek was 150 feet higher than the side of the plain of the eastern channel, and even the summits of the antecedent tableland which rose beyond it were 100 feet higher.

It is this peculiar conformation which causes the streams to spread so widely when flowing down the course of the valleys from north to south, and it is only where they break through the intervening ridges that the water is confined sufficiently to form well-defined channels.

The existence of these extensive valleys trending north and south over so large a tract of country render it by no means unlikely that they continue far beyond the limits of present exploration, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that the great depressions which have been traced nearly five hundred miles north from Spencer's Gulf, through Lake Torrens to the Stony Desert of Sturt (or rather the mud plains contiguous to it) are continuous to the westward, and may be continuous to the great ocean.

Captain Wickham having named an important river discovered by him R. M. B. Bengal, on the north-west coast, "the Victoria," several years prior to Sir T. Mitchell, having attached that name to the upper portion of Cooper's Creek, which had also been previously discovered and named by Captain Sturt, I would suggest that the river Bengal should be adopted for the whole of the main channel from its source, discovered by Sir T. Mitchell, to its termination in Lake Torrens; as, while it does not interfere with the rule that the name given by the first discoverer should be retained, will prevent the recurrence of the misapprehension and inconvenience of having two important rivers with the same designation on the maps of Australia.

With regard to the number and habits of the aborigines, I could collect but little information, as only a collective number of about one hundred men, a few women and children, were seen in small scattered parties; but, judging from the number of encampments, at least a thousand must visit the banks of the river, and it is probable that the whole of the inhabitants of the interior, which is a large area, are dependent on it for water during the dry season.

Neither sex wear any clothing. Their weapons and utensils are similar to those used on the eastern coast; nor was there any characteristic by which they could be observed to differ from the aborigines of other portions of Australia.

The raw, grass seeds, and a few roots, constitute their chief food.

On the upper part of the river they bury their dead, piling wood on the grave; near the junction of the Murray and the river they suspend the bodies in nets, and afterwards remove the bones, while on Cooper's Creek the graves are mounds of earth three to four feet high, apparently without any excavation, and surrounded by a pile of dead wood. In the last-named locality the number of buried mounds which had been constructed, was, at a very early age greatly exceeded the proportion of deaths which could possibly occur in any ordinary season of scarcity; even assuming the densest population known in any part of Australia; and it is not improbable that the season of drought which proved so destructive to the tree vegetation higher up the river may have been equally disastrous in its effect on the aboriginal inhabitants of that portion of the interior.

A. C. GREGORY.
Sydney, 27th August, 1858.

STATE OF THE MAGISTRACY.

(FRANCIS V. PAYLY.)

PROGRESS REPORT.
The Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly appointed on the 18th February, 1858, "to inquire into the state of the magistracy of this colony," and to whom were referred on the 22nd July last, "a copy of the proceedings in the case of Pearce v. Payly, tried before the bench of magistrates

Liverpool, in November, 1857," have agreed to the following progress report:—

Your committee doth it their duty to bring the facts connected with this case immediately under the notice of your honourable House, as they not only serve to illustrate the state of the magistracy in certain instances, but also illustrate the dispositions of the Government in dealing with such cases, even so far as the law of levies is concerned.

The Attorney-General, on the part of the Government, called for these proceedings on the 7th of December last, and they were transmitted to him from the Police Office at Liverpool on the following day. But although very nearly nine months have since elapsed, further action, according to the evidence of Mr. Plunkett, secretary to the Crown Law Officers (hereinafter mentioned) has been taken since in the matter.

These facts appear to your committee to demand immediate attention, for they serve to prejudice the public interest, and bring the administration of justice into discredit.

T. A. MURRAY, Chairman.
Legislative Assembly Chamber, September 3rd.

LOWER MURRUMBIDGEE.

(OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SARAHANNA, 4th.—**The Assessment Act.**—Although not objecting to the legislature assessing the stock in the colony, yet the settlers in this locality do object to the shortness of the period to which the bill now brings discussed applies, and to the classification of the districts, as at present contemplated. The amount of assessment to be collected under the proposed Act is large, it is true; but if any guarantees could be given that it would not affect the value of the stock, the uncertainty of rain and frequent recurrence of drought renders it untenable, the grasses and herbage being principally annuals, which, not only die but are swept away by the hot summer winds, leaving the surface of the soil completely bare.

On Cooper's Creek, near the boundary, there is a small tract of second-rate country, which, being abundantly supplied with water, may easily be occupied. The best part is, however, within the Province of South Australia.

Between Cooper's Creek and Lake Torrens about 120 miles of sandy country intervenes. This tract is destitute of surface water, but it is probable that it could be obtained by sinking wells of moderate depth. I think it might be occupied to advantage during the winter months, the present local settlers would, no doubt, be improving their runs, and paying more attention to the stock, he able to benefit the country and compensate themselves for the amount of the tax.

The geological character of the country is remarkably uniform. Carboniferous sandstones and shales, containing occasional beds of coal, with superimposed hills and ridges of basalt, extend from Darling Downs to the southward, the latter being covered by horizontal sandstones with beds of chert and water-worn quartz pebbles. This latter formation extends as far as Mount Hopeless, where the slate ranges of South Australia rise abruptly from the plain.

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Liverpool, in November, 1857," have agreed to the following progress report:—

TASMANIA.
We have four days' leave from Hobart Town—viz., to the 7th instant.

The *Daily Mercury* of the 6th, in noticing the gold reefs at Flinders, to which, of late, frequent reference has been made, is compelled to dignify it with the name of "the great Flinders." It adds: "We have seen and handled two exciting specimens of quartz, procured in that locality, one of which was broken off the reef by Mr. Valentine of Ross. Both of the specimens not only contain gold possessing the rare and highly coveted quality of being visible to the naked eye, but they contain it in masses of large quantities. These pieces of auriferous quartz have been sent to us by numbers of our citizens, thus raising expectations of a great deal more to come."

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A USTRALIAN JOINT STOCK BANK.
NOTICE is hereby given, that interest will be allowed by this Bank, on £100 deposits lodged after this date, as follows, namely:-
At 5 per cent, per annum for a period of 6 months
" " " " " 3 months
The rate of interest for longer periods to be made of special arrangement.
For the greater convenience of depositors, Bank Post Bills, with interest added to them rates, respectively, are sent payable to order, and are thus negotiable at any time.

By order of the Board of Directors,
A. H. RICHARDSON, General Manager.
Sydney, 1st March, 1858.

E NGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND AUSTRALIAN CHARTERED BANK.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter 1852).
Paid-up Capital £1,000,000.
INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

For annum.
Repayable on 7 days' notice ... 5% per cent.
Ditto on 15 days' ditto ... 3% ditto
Ditto on 3 months' ditto ... 4% ditto
Ditto on 6 months' ditto ... 5% ditto
Ditto on 12 months' ditto ... 5% ditto

For sums amounting to £2000 and upwards, interest according to special arrangement.

JOHN YOUNG, Manager.

Sydney, 19th April.

A USTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

The Directors have the satisfaction to draw the attention of all members to the benefits and pecuniary advantages accorded to the Society by its Act of Incorporation, among which are the following:-

(1) The Protection to a gradually increasing amount of all its policies after an endurance of two years, against the operation of the law of usury.

(2) The Protection of Widows. Married Women against the debt or control of their husbands.

(3) For the encouragement of small assureds, their policies are relieved from the heavy tax involved in taking out letters of administration, &c.

Annual premiums for Assurance of £100, with bonus addenda.

Age. Premium. £ 25 3 8 35 4 45 5 55 6 65 7
From £ 25 3 8 £ 35 4 £ 45 5 £ 55 6 £ 65 7

Comparative view of bonuses according to a Policy of Assurance of £2000, effected at the age of 40 in different offices.

An English Proprietary Company, less premiums paid ... £50 16 8
Scottish "Widow's Fund" (Mutual), seven premiums paid ... 70 0

A USTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY, five premiums paid ... 81 15 7

For full tables see prospectus.

General conditions as to surrenders, voyaging, residence abroad, loans to members, payment of claims, &c., &c., will be found in the prospectus.

Precisely, printed forms, and all information may be obtained from any of the agents, or at the chief office, from

ROBERT THOMSON, manager and secretary,
Mort's-building, Pitt-street.

I MPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

£1,000,000.

Premiums for Dwelling-houses, Commercial Houses, Brick or Stone with slated or metal roofs, from £2. 3d. to £2. 9d. per cent, per annum. Ditto with shingled roofs £2. 9d. to £3. 9d. Household Furniture at the same rate as the buildings.

Browned and Weatherboard Buildings, from £2. 4d.

Ships in Harbour or in Dock, in the Port of Sydney, With warranty to repair, £2. 6d. per cent, per annum.

With liberty to repair, £1. 3d. Ship building as may be agreed.

Loss from Fire by Lightning made good; and all claims adjusted in the usual way.

GRIFFITHS, FANNING, & CO., Agents, Bowring-st.

PREMIUMS ON FIRE INSURANCE GREATLY REDUCED.

T H E LIVERPOOL AND LONDON FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Empowered by Acts of Parliament.

Established in 1852.

Having a Colonial Department and the following Board of Directors in Sydney: J. S. Willis, Ed., Chairman; Rev. G. R. Holden, Esq., M.L.C.; J. B. Watt, Esq.; Hon. Sir Daniel Cooper, M.P.; J. B. Hoskyns, Esq.; Mr. John Alexander, Esq.; Archibald Campbell, Esq.

MEDICAL REFERENCES.

John H. Mac Farlane, Esq., M.D.

Hon. Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq., M.I.C.

Banker: The Bank of Australia.

Solicitors: Messrs. Norton, Scott, and Barker.

Surveyor: Francis H. Grundy, Esq., C.E.

Postmaster: Secretary - A. Stanser, Leathes.

Offices, Margaret-street, Wynyard-square.

Capital subscribed exceeding £1,000,000.

Accumulated Funds and Capital paid up, £1,000,000.

Of which £100,000 is invested in the colony, in Government and other securities.

Reserves Surius Fund, £214,000,- with unlimited liability of the shareholders.

The Directors consent to grant Policies of Insurance in full, to the extent of the Company's business upon terms which will be found as liberal as those of any other office.

The fact of this Company having, since its establishment in 1852, paid claims exceeding One Million Sterling, (£1,000,000), the during 1857 - exceeding £200,000, and last guarantee £100,000, in the sum of £100,000, whilst the annual income £400,000, and its large amount of accumulated funds, exceeding Two Millions Sterling, (£2,000,000), together with the unlimited liability of all the shareholders, are the best proofs of its stability.

Tables of rates for Fire and Life Insurance, in all its branches, will be published in the usual way.

A. STANLEY LEATHERS, resident secretary.

SYDNEY MARINE AND MERCANTILE OFFICE.—Office of Lyons-buildings, George-street.—Special notice to shippers in the Gold-fields. Rates reduced at this Office, as under:-

Wide Bay 10/- per cent.

Port Curtis 10/- ditto.

Northampton, Flinders River 2/- ditto.

SAMUEL H. BYTH, broker.

Sydney, September 10th.

T HE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NEWCASTLE.

Visitor: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Newcastle.

Head Master: The Reverend E. K. YEATMAN, A.M., of Wadham College, Oxford.

This institution, formerly conducted by the Rev. W. H. Savory, will be re-opened (D. V.) on the 1st of October next, in the new and commodious Parsonage of St. John's, Newcastle. Mr. Yeatman will then be ready to receive into his family two or three young domestic servants with the assistance of Mrs. and Miss Yeatman.

For terms apply to the Rev. E. K. Yeatman, of St. John's Parsonage, Morley Bay.

In the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

In Insolvency.

N OTICE TO CREDITORS.—Dividends the following Estates will be payable at my office on any FRIDAY from 10 to 12 o'clock, from the 1st of October next, in the sum of £1000,000, a first dividend of £1. 10/- in the £ on all concurrent claims proved, and paying preferential claims in full.

HENRY S. B. NEILL, a first dividend of £1. 10/- in the £ on a concurrent claim proved.

HENRY M. KIRK, a first dividend of £1. 10/- in the £ on all concurrent claims proved, and paying a preferential claim in full.

WILLIAM P. HOWARD a first dividend of £1. 10/- in the £ on all concurrent claims proved.

Creditors holding promissory notes will be required to present them.

ADAM WILSON, Official Assignee.

Exchange Corner, Bridge-street, Sydney, 11th September 1858.

P ORTABLE SUN-DIAL AND COMPASS.—This compass and useful instrument is well adapted for travellers, and is recommended to the attention of bushmen, diggers, and others; it gives, not only the magnetic bearing, but also the true, with exactness, and being strongly cast in brass is not easily broken. BRUSH and MACDONNELL.

S. MORDAN and CO.'s celebrated Patent Project Iron Safe and Landau, a large assortment of the above, and on SALE in the stores of the undersigned, sole agents for S. Mordan and CO. in New South Wales, FRANCK, BROTHERS, and GANS, 22, Macquarie-place.

PARAPLUMES and WRAPPERS for SALE. Apply to M. FORD, Health Office.

ENAMELED and JAPANNED HIDES, superior to imported, and fit for a coat, oblong, at HALL and ANDERSON'S, 221, Elizabeth-street.

I MPORTANT NOTICE.—Messrs. GRO. CHISHOLM & CO. are most happy to have the opportunity of introducing their Friends and the public in general to the personal and social advantages of their new goods in this extensive stock arrived in Woolstonecraft, and Davison's—the whole who have selected as the newest Summer Goods by our Mr. GEORGE CHISHOLM in the markets of England and the Continent of Europe.

BOOK-DEPARTMENT.

Summer silk, and elegant patterns, in checks, plain and striped.

Striped ditto.

Cotton lace, all shades.

Moire and satin.

Black goss, best quality.

Rich and heavy silk.

Velvet, various colours.

French and Swiss printed rich muslin dresses.

Ribbed spandrel dresses.

Broader flannel ditto.

Ditto plaid ditto.

Challis flannel ditto.

French and Irish lace.

A large variety of silk tassels, all shades.

Baron, lama, and paradise silk socks and square shawls.

Rich silk and satin mantles, latest style.

Printed tassels, etc.

Bill and velvet ditto.

Ditto plaid ditto.

Coloured cloth mantles, tamas, and polkas, with new style of trimming.

Woolen and mohair jackets.

White and black mohair.

White and black embroidered lace mantles, ruffs, and squares.

French and Swiss mantles, splendidly embroidered.

Ladies' and children's holland jackets.

White and black wraps.

Boys' new straw caps for summer.

Boys' new straw hats for summer.

Any article to mention.

COATS.—The undersigned are offering silk cheveron (red green) over, in consequence of the reduction in the home market.

The following is our present list:

Rich black silks ... £1. 7 6 for 14 yards.

Fancy silks ... 2 5 0 for 18 ditto, wide width.

Washing silk ... 1 1 1 for 8 for 12 ditto, ditto.

Gloves and embroidered checks 2 8 0 for 12 ditto, ditto.

Rich blue silk roses 3 1 2 for 18 ditto.

COATS.—

Wool, silk, and mohair jackets.

White and black mohair.

